

CLAIM REJECTIONS

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 are pending. Claims 1, 7, and 17 are amended herein. No new matter has been added as a result of the amendments.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejections

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-12, and 14-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gupta et al. (U.S. 6,389,532) in view of Boyle et al. (U.S. 6,212,636), and further in view of Bruck et al. (U.S. 6,691, 165). Further, Claims 17-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C.(a) as being unpatentable over Gupta et al. (U.S. 6,389,532) in view of Boyle et al. (U.S. 6,212,636), and further in view of Gibbs et al. (U.S. 6,085, 321). Additionally, Claim 3, 6, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Gupta et al. (U.S. 6,389,532) in view of Boyle et al. (U.S. 6,212,636) and Bruck et al. (U.S. 6,691, 165), and further in view of Gibbs et al. (U.S. 6,085, 321).

Applicant respectfully submits that the embodiments of the present invention as recited in Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-12, and 14-16 are neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by Gupta et al. (U.S. 6,389,532) in view of Boyle et al. (U.S. 6,212,636), and further in view of Bruck et al. (U.S. 6,691, 165). Further, Applicant respectfully submits that the embodiments of the present invention as recited in Claims 17-19 are neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by Gupta et al. (U.S. 6,389,532) in view of Boyle et al. (U.S. 6,212,636), and further in view of Gibbs et al. (U.S. 6,085, 321). Moreover, Further, Applicant respectfully submits that the embodiments of the present invention as recited in Claims 3, 6, and 16 are neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by the combination of Gupta et al. (U.S. 6,389,532) in view

of Boyle et al. (U.S. 6,212,636) and Bruck et al. (U.S. 6,691, 165), and further in view of Gibbs et al. (U.S. 6,085, 321)

Examiner is respectfully directed to currently amended independent Claim 1, which recites that an embodiment of the present invention is directed to a digital signature method for a network infrastructure copy protection system, comprising:

- applying a digital signature to a digital content file;
- transmitting the content file across a distributed computer network;
- examining the content file to determine whether the content file includes the digital signature, the examining performed within the distributed computer network;
- transmitting the content file when the content file includes the digital signature;
- blocking transmission of the content file when the content file does not include the digital signature to prevent unauthorized downloading of copyrighted material; and
- blocking transmission of the content file when the data comprising the content files is a restricted data format to prevent unauthorized downloading of copyrighted material.

Currently amended independent Claims 7 and currently amended independent Claim 17 recited limitations similar to those of currently amended independent Claim 1. Claims 2-6, 14, 15, and 16, Claims 8-13, and Claims 18-19 depend from Claims 1, 7, and 17 respectively and recite further limitations of the Claimed invention.

Gupta does not anticipate or render obvious “transmitting a content file across a distributed computer network; examining the content file to determine whether the content file includes the digital signature, the examining performed within a distributed computer network; transmitting the content file when the content file includes a digital signature; and blocking transmission of the content file when the data comprising the content files is a restricted data format to prevent unauthorized downloading of copyrighted material.” as is recited in currently amended independent Claim 1.

In order to meet the limitations of currently amended Claim 1 a reference (or combination of references) must teach or suggest, either expressly or inherently, in addition to other limitations on currently amended Claim 1: transmitting a content file across a distributed computer network; examining the content file to determine whether the content file includes the digital signature, the examining performed within a distributed computer network; transmitting the content file when the content file includes a digital signature; and blocking transmission of the content file when the data comprising the content files is a restricted data format to prevent unauthorized downloading of copyrighted material.

By contrast, Gupta only discloses a method for using digital signatures to prevent wasting of router bandwidth and resources on processing packets associated with unauthorized senders. Specifically, Gupta discloses a method and apparatus for using digital signatures to filter packets in a network in order to avoid wasting router bandwidth and resources on processing packets associated with unauthorized senders. (column 1, lines 56-60)

Nowhere in the Gupta reference is there disclosed transmitting a content file across a distributed computer network; examining the content file to determine whether the content file includes the digital signature, the examining performed within a distributed computer network; transmitting the content file when the content file includes a digital signature; and blocking transmission of the content file when the data comprising the content files is a restricted data format to prevent unauthorized downloading of copyrighted material as recited in currently amended Claim 1.

Consequently, Gupta does not show or suggest the Applicant's invention as is set forth in Claim 1. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully submit that Gupta does not anticipate or render obvious the present claimed invention as recited in currently amended Claim 1, and as such, Claim 1 is in condition for allowance.

Boyle does not overcome the deficiencies of Gupta noted in the discussions above. Gupta in combination with Boyle does not anticipate or render obvious "transmitting a content file across a distributed computer network; examining the content file to determine whether the content file includes the digital signature, the examining performed within a distributed computer network; transmitting the content file when the content file includes a digital signature; and blocking transmission of the content file when the data comprising the content files is a restricted data format to prevent unauthorized downloading of copyrighted material." as is recited in currently amended independent Claim 1.

By contrast, Boyle merely discloses a method for establishing trusted communications with associations for communications between users on an Internet Protocol based computer network. Specifically, Boyle is directed to a secure network interface unit (SNIU), which is utilized to control communications between a user such as a computer host and a network at a "session layer" of interconnection which occurs when a user on the network is identified and a communication session is to commence. (column 3, lines 50-57)

Nowhere in the Boyle reference is there disclosed transmitting a content file across a distributed computer network; examining the content file to determine whether the content file includes the digital signature, the examining performed within a distributed computer

network; transmitting the content file when the content file includes a digital signature; and blocking transmission of the content file when the data comprising the content files is a restricted data format to prevent unauthorized downloading of copyrighted material.

In addition, Bruck does not overcome the deficiencies of Gupta noted in the discussions above. Gupta in combination with Bruck does not anticipate or render obvious “transmitting a content file across a distributed computer network; examining the content file to determine whether the content file includes the digital signature, the examining performed within a distributed computer network; transmitting the content file when the content file includes a digital signature; and blocking transmission of the content file when the data comprising the content files is a restricted data format to prevent unauthorized downloading of copyrighted material.” as is recited in currently amended independent Claim 1.

By contrast, Bruck merely discloses a scalable, distributed, highly available, load balancing server system having multiple machines that functions as a front server layer between a network and a back-end server layer having multiple machines.

Nowhere in the Bruck reference is there disclosed transmitting a content file across a distributed computer network; examining the content file to determine whether the content file includes the digital signature, the examining performed within a distributed computer network; transmitting the content file when the content file includes a digital signature; and blocking transmission of the content file when the data comprising the content files is a restricted data format to prevent unauthorized downloading of copyrighted material.

Furthermore, Gibbs does not overcome the deficiencies of Gupta noted in the discussions above. Gupta in combination with Gibbs does not anticipate or render obvious “transmitting a content file across a distributed computer network; examining the content file to determine whether the content file includes the digital signature, the examining performed within a distributed computer network; transmitting the content file when the content file includes a digital signature; and blocking transmission of the content file when the data comprising the content files is a restricted data format to prevent unauthorized downloading of copyrighted material.” as is recited in currently amended independent Claim 1.

By contrast, Gibbs merely discloses a method for a unique digital signature. Specifically, Gibbs is directed to a unique digital signature comprising a service id and an adapted digital signature, and the adapted digital signature provides temporary or restricted privileges for a particular electronic service. (column 2, lines 10-20)

Nowhere in the Gibbs reference is there disclosed transmitting a content file across a distributed computer network; examining the content file to determine whether the content file includes the digital signature, the examining performed within a distributed computer network; transmitting the content file when the content file includes a digital signature; and blocking transmission of the content file when the data comprising the content files is a restricted data format to prevent unauthorized downloading of copyrighted material.

Consequently, the Applicant respectfully submit that Gupta alone or in combination with Boyle and Bruck does not anticipate or render obvious the present claimed invention as set forth in currently amended independent Claims 1, 7, and 17. Further, the Applicant also respectfully submit that Gupta alone or in combination with Boyle and Gibbs does not anticipate or render obvious the present claimed invention as set forth in currently amended independent Claims 1, 7, and 17. Thus, currently amended independent Claims 1, 7, and 17 are in condition for allowance.

Therefore, the Applicant respectfully submits that Gupta in combination with Boyle and Bruck or Gupta in combination with Boyle and Gibbs neither anticipates nor renders obvious the present claimed invention as recited in currently amended independent Claims 1, 7, and 17 and, as such, currently amended independent Claims 1, 7, and 17 overcome the Examiner's basis for rejection under 35 USC 103(a).

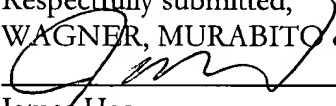
Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submit that Gupta in combination with Boyle and Bruck or Gupta in combination with Boyle and Gibbs neither anticipates nor renders obvious the present claimed invention as is recited in Claims 8-13, Claims 18-19, and Claims 2-6, 14, 15, and 16 which depend from currently amended independent Claims 7, 17, and 1 respectively. As such, the Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 2-6 are also in condition for allowance as being dependent on an allowable base Claim.

SUMMARY

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims in the instant patent application are in condition for allowance. The Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the Application and allowance of the pending claims.

If the Examiner determines the prompt allowance of these claims could be facilitated by a telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to contact James Hao at the below listed phone number.

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